United Nations A/HRC/32/12

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 April 2016

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirty-second session
Agenda item 6
Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Somalia

* The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.

GE.16-06036(E)

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-fourth session from 18 to 29 January 2016. The review of Somalia was held at the 9th meeting, on 22 January 2016. The delegation of Somalia was headed by the Minister of Women, Human Rights and Social Development, Zahra Ali Samantar. At its 14th meeting, held on 26 January 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Somalia.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Somalia: Nigeria, Slovenia and Viet Nam.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Somalia:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/SOM/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/SOM/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/24/SOM/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Somalia through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Minister of Women, Human Rights and Social Development stated that the delegation of Somalia was devastated by the shocking news of a brutal attack that had taken place the night before at a seaside restaurant in Mogadishu. Terrorists had killed at least 20 people, among them 4 children. She expressed the deepest condolences of the delegation for those killed and wished the injured a swift recovery.

6. The Minister reaffirmed the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia to universal human rights. Somalia had made persistent efforts to cultivate a pluralistic society and welcomed engagement with all stakeholders. For the first time in 22 years, Somalia was charting new territory. A prosperous, just and secure Somalia was on the horizon for all to see. Nevertheless, this fragile change required the utmost care and the sustained focus of international partners. The Minister cautioned against Somalia being taken off the international priority list as new hotspots emerged around globe.

7. The Minister indicated that Somalia had received and supported 155 recommendations, and committed itself to doing everything within its ability to implement them. The situation of Somalia had not been completely stable for 25 years. The challenges facing Somalia were, among others, lack of security, extreme poverty, and environmentally induced disasters such as droughts and flooding.

8. The Minister thanked the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia, and more specifically its human rights section, for its relentless support for all government institutions dealing with human rights, and particularly for its assistance to the Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development.

9. The Minister indicated that the Government and human rights defenders had endorsed an action plan for the Human Rights Road Map. The action plan laid out the responsibilities for implementing the road map, in terms of the lead ministry, other participating ministries and other partners. The immediate need was for support for technical assistance, and financial resources.

10. There were four priority areas in the action plan. These were the establishment of the independent national human rights commission, building the capacity of the ministry for human rights, protection of vulnerable groups and civilians, and compliance with international humanitarian law. The Minister underscored the importance of investing in the capacity of the ministry and in that of the awaited human rights commission, which would enable these institutions to implement the other priorities more effectively. The Minister also underlined that her ministry was putting special emphasis on the protection of minority groups, taking steps to include them in the ongoing political process of federalizing Somalia.

11. Concerning security, the Minister indicated that the Ministry of Internal Security was leading the process of establishing unified, accountable and rights-based security institutions providing basic safety and security for all Somali citizens.

12. At the same time as preventing underage recruitment and ensuring the release of children associated with armed entities, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Internal Security were leading the process involving the integration of formal and informal security forces. The National Programme for Disengaged Combatants was assisting more than 300 disengaged combatants in the country. It was aimed at achieving sustainable reintegration and reconciliation, and emphasized the specific needs of child combatants, and of female combatants and their dependents.

13. The Minister emphasized that, as stated in the national report, the Government was preparing to provide more training to prosecutors and police investigators on human rights in the administration of justice in the coming three years in order to pay special attention to the human rights of women, children, minorities and persons with disabilities.

14. With regard to women, the Minister stated that Somalia had made significant progress in addressing the issue of gender inequality. The Government had worked tirelessly to combat disparities in fundamental and basic rights, in access to and control of resources, in employment, in governance and in political participation. The provisional Constitution provided significant affirmative action measures to ensure gender equity and equality.

15. The Somali National Gender Policy included priorities for women's economic empowerment and for their participation in political and decision-making processes. Government institutions had revitalized their structure by setting up departments focused on gender affairs; this included the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development to steer women's affairs at the Cabinet level.

16. One of the most significant milestones for women was the common agreement that there should be a fixed quota of parliamentary seats for women; in the case of those seats, the seat would remain vacant if a woman was not elected to it. The Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development was campaigning throughout the regions of Somalia to encourage local representatives to include women and members of minority groups in the formation process of the federal states.

17. Regarding children and young people, the Minister stated that, despite political volatility, insecurity, and limited access to resources, Somalia had made significant advances since the last review. The accession of Somalia to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2015 had been a historic milestone.

18. Furthermore, Somalia had continued its efforts to secure the release and reintegration of children recruited by armed forces and groups. Accordingly, the Government had established the Serendi Rehabilitation Centre, whose purpose was to rehabilitate adults and children who had formerly fought in armed groups, before reintegrating them into society. Since the most recent visit of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the management of the centre had reviewed and significantly changed the centre's procedures and policies, making it more transparent and open to independent monitoring, which had resulted in the transfer of 64 disengaged child fighters to child-appropriate facilities better equipped for their specific needs.

19. The Attorney General stated that the most significant obstacle for human rights protection in Somalia was the fragile security situation created by terrorism. Frequent terrorist attacks on government officials, human rights defenders and civilians had generated a continuous state of fear. To prevent terrorism and to reduce its adverse consequences, the Government had drafted the country's first-ever national counter-terrorism bill. The Cabinet had approved the bill and sent it to Parliament, where it was waiting to be tabled.

20. This bill would better enable the Office of the Attorney General to prosecute effectively groups and individuals suspected of terrorism, as it provided a legal framework for the fight against terrorism. It also gave special powers to the security forces to conduct missions within a legal scope. It would ensure due process for suspects and protection for witnesses. The Government had also reaffirmed its commitment to being cautious with affiliating any organization with terrorism without substantial and solid evidence.

21. The Government had undertaken efforts to make the public aware of the challenges in its role of ensuring both the security of the nation and citizens' rights to expression and assembly. Moreover, the Government was working to establish the necessary legal framework to guarantee to citizens freedom from arbitrary arrest, as provided in the provisional Constitution.

22. Concerning the media, the Attorney General indicated that the Government firmly believed that every person had the right to disagree with, or dissent from, the Government, and to state that disagreement or dissent publicly as guaranteed by the provisional Constitution. However, this could only happen within the limits of orderly discourse in a democratic society. No citizen had the right, even if disguised as freedom of expression, to incite, to defame, or to endanger society and its security.

23. In this regard, the Attorney General gave an example of a journalist who had falsely spread news that Ebola had been diagnosed in Somalia. This news wreaked havoc on the already fragile society and economy, causing flights to be cancelled, shipments to be postponed and important work to be halted. Another example was the radio host who had called on all Somalis to rise up against the Government, violently if necessary. This kind of freedom of expression could never be tolerated, for obvious reasons.

24. The Somali National Media Law provided for the rights of journalists. The media bill had been formulated on the basis of full consultations with all sectors of the Somali media community. The bill had been passed into law in the past two weeks and been signed by the President. With this law, the Government ensured that journalists were treated in accordance with the laws of the nation. The law included the provisions that every suspect would be brought before a competent judge within 48 hours, that no one would be

subjected to torture or inhumane treatment, and that the right to legal representation and a fair trial was guaranteed. All law enforcement and security agencies, including the National Intelligence and Security Agency, adhered to the constitutional laws of the country.

25. It remained a challenge for the Government to prevent the killings of journalists. However, the Office of the General Prosecutor had taken steps to prevent perpetrators from enjoying impunity and freedom. It had conducted investigations into the killings of journalists to bring suspects before courts of law.

26. The Government worked tirelessly to prosecute all crimes of assassination. One of the groups most targeted by armed terrorist groups was government officials. In the past three years, about 24 judges and prosecutors had been the victims of targeted killings.

27. With regard to the justice sector, the Attorney General indicated that securing access to qualified and competent legal aid remained challenging. To improve the credibility and independence of the judicial system, the Government had worked to strengthen access to justice for members of vulnerable groups, including women and internally displaced persons.

28. The Ministry of Justice had been working to improve the capacity of the judiciary. The Office of the Attorney General was continuously working to enable the prosecution of suspects of crimes, such as terrorism and piracy, in accordance with the principles of due process. Concerning piracy, the Government had worked to interrupt criminal activities at sea, strengthening domestic maritime law-enforcement capacity and addressing the root causes of maritime crime on land. A ban on ransom payments for piracy hostages had not been feasible due to the lack of enforcement capacity.

29. The number of qualified police investigators, judges, prosecutors and other staff in the judiciary had been increased. More than 30 judges and prosecutors had completed a two-year judicial training programme. The Office of Attorney General had also recruited 20 more new prosecutors, including six women.

30. The courts had delivered a number of significant judgments, directly invoking both constitutional provisions and national laws. Judgments relating to sexual violence against women and children had also been passed. The Government had been vocal about the passing of these judgments to make citizens aware that impunity would not be accepted in Somalia.

31. The Attorney General stated that elimination of the death penalty was something that required a long process. The Somali provisional Constitution prescribed sharia law as the paramount law. Sharia law provided for the death penalty for a limited number of crimes. Somalia was reviewing penal procedure codes to reduce the number of crimes for which the death penalty was applied, and was looking into alternative penalties, such as life imprisonment, for other crimes that carry the death penalty.

32. Concerning torture, the Attorney General affirmed that the Government did not condone torture or ill-treatment of any person. All law enforcement and security agencies adhered to that principle. The Government was working to raise awareness that there could not be any circumstances in which torture was permissible.

33. There had been no forced evictions of internally displaced persons in Mogadishu or anywhere else in Somalia. In Mogadishu, internally displaced persons were living in camps managed by non-governmental organizations, which were monitored by the Government to ensure full protection and assistance to the people concerned. Court workers had gone to the camps to listen to their complaints and had taken the necessary action to contact the relevant authorities for follow-up. No one had been arbitrarily evicted from their home and the Government did not allow this to happen.

34. The Office of the General Prosecutor had been active in investigating sexual crimes and in ensuring that an example was set whereby no crime, especially of sexual violence, would go unpunished. So far, the General Prosecutor's Office had been successful in bringing 69 such cases before a judge in 2015.

35. Regarding corruption, the Attorney General indicated that his office regularly referred cases to the Office of the General Prosecutor to investigate and to bring them before a judge. However, in order to combat corruption more effectively, a national independent anti-corruption commission and a judiciary high commission needed to be established. Moreover, it was very important to thoroughly build the capacity of the institutions meant to fight corruption, such as the Office of the General Prosecutor, the Auditor General, the Criminal Investigation Department and the courts.

36. The Government had taken important steps to ensure that its military forces and the forces of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) complied with international humanitarian law and human rights norms. However, while aware that these troops were committed to adhering to these fundamental principles, incidents deeply concerning to the Government and the people had taken place.

37. The airstrikes of the Kenyan Defence Forces were the latest such incident, some of which had targeted civilian areas and caused heavy casualties. The Government was committed to conducting impartial investigations into this incident and was requesting parliamentary oversight, asking the defence committee of Parliament to also look into the matter.

38. As a result, the Government had increased its engagement and monitoring in regard to the work of AMISOM to ensure full compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights norms. A total of 10,700 Somali National Army soldiers had been trained in United Nations human rights due diligence.

39. The Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development had engaged in dialogue with AMISOM on special measures for the protection of Somali women and girls from sexual exploitation and abuse. The Government and AMISOM had set up a joint task force to work together in cases of alleged human rights violations to come up with appropriate and timely responses to such incidents.

40. Regarding violations of children's rights, the Attorney General highlighted the commitment of Somalia to protecting children by signing the standard operating procedures on reception and handover of children from armed groups. The Government also worked with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to implement the "Children, Not Soldiers" global campaign and the two action plans signed in 2012: one on ending the recruitment and use of children and the other on ending the killing and maiming of children.

41. Concluding the presentation by Somalia, the Minister emphasized that the Government had put into place a number of participatory schemes to jump-start a national dialogue. She thanked fellow Member States, OHCHR and other United Nations agencies for assisting Somalia in its efforts to follow the highest standards of respect for human rights. She stressed that Somalia was pleased to take advantage of sincerely offered advice, as proved by its acceptance of all the recommendations during the previous cycle.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

42. During the interactive dialogue, 85 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

43. Brazil appreciated the accession by Somalia to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to the International Labour Organization (ILO) Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

44. Canada welcomed the commitment to achieving peace and State-building objectives as outlined in the Somali Compact. It encouraged the State-building process to be inclusive and reflect the views of women and girls.

45. Chad noted with satisfaction that Somalia had taken legislative and administrative measures to ensure the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by its population.

46. China noted the instability, poverty, weak institutions, meagre resources, and many other challenges facing Somalia, urging the international community to provide technical cooperation and capacity-building in the area of human rights.

47. The Congo welcomed the implementation of the universal periodic review recommendations of 2011 relating to the establishment of institutions to promote and protect human rights.

48. Costa Rica congratulated Somalia on its new Constitution and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It expressed concern about allegations of the murder of civilians, caused by the Somali security forces and AMISOM forces.

49. Cuba noted the approval of Labour Law No. 11 and No. 13, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the endorsement of the Human Rights Road Map of 2013 and its action plan.

50. While recognizing the current challenges, Cyprus encouraged Somalia to accelerate efforts towards the full implementation of its international human rights obligations.

51. The Czech Republic welcomed the delegation of Somalia.

52. The Democratic Republic of the Congo praised the efforts in the field of human rights, including the full cooperation with the special procedures and the adoption of a national action plan.

53. Denmark commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child but was concerned about serious abuses against civilians by all parties to the conflict.

54. Djibouti acknowledged the terrorist threat facing Somalia. It expressed support for the adoption of the Human Rights Road Map and an action plan to implement the universal periodic review recommendations.

55. Egypt called on the international community to continue to support Somalia in implementing its human rights action plan, combating poverty and achieving full security.

56. Estonia encouraged Somalia to ratify all core international human rights instruments and to issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders. It commended Somalia for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

57. Ethiopia noted that, despite significant obstacles to human rights protection caused by terrorism, Somalia had made achievements on the ground. It also noted the lack of resources and institutional capacity and the poverty that faced Somalia.

58. Finland commended Somalia for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It encouraged Somalia to establish an independent national human rights commission and called upon Somalia to halt executions and apply a moratorium.

59. France welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in October 2015.

60. Germany commended Somalia for its engagement with international human rights mechanisms and its willingness to improve the human rights situation in the country.

61. Ghana appreciated the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the steps taken to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

62. Greece highlighted progress made in several areas, including the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development.

63. Guatemala noted positively the adoption of the Human Rights Road Map and its action plan. It also noted the need to prevent gender inequality by complying with policies to prevent violence against women.

64. Indonesia commended the establishment of the Human Rights Road Map and its action plan.

65. Iraq congratulated Somalia for its ability to re-establish security, its efforts to comply with its international obligations, and its accessions to international conventions.

66. Maldives welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but was concerned about the large number of internally displaced persons, especially those who did not have means to meet basic food needs.

67. Japan welcomed the adoption of the post-transition road map on human rights, but was concerned about continuing human rights violations, including the recruitment and use of children as soldiers.

68. Kuwait acknowledged the political, economic and security challenges facing Somalia and indicated its intention to continue to provide the voluntary contribution to help Somalia overcome them.

69. Latvia regretted the slow pace of implementation of national action plans to end sexual violence and to prevent the recruitment of children as soldiers.

70. Lesotho noted with appreciation the establishment of key institutions and the enactment of fundamental human rights laws and policies. It encouraged the development of institutional and legal frameworks.

71. Libya acknowledged the positive developments since the last review, including the adoption of policies and strategies, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the tabling of the first national counter-terrorism bill.

72. Lithuania noted implementation of the national plan on human rights protection and encouraged Somalia to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

73. Luxembourg encouraged Somalia to continue its efforts to stabilize the situation of the country. It expressed concerns about the recruitment of child soldiers and the continuation of impunity in cases of sexual violence.

74. Madagascar praised the progress made in implementing the recommendations accepted during the first universal periodic review.

75. Malaysia noted the enactment of new legislation covering the rights of children, the rights of foreign workers, the establishment of an electoral commission, and issues relating to the media.

76. Italy commended the progress made in implementing the Human Rights Road Map and encouraged Somalia to ensure a free and independent press.

77. Mauritania encouraged the Federal Government of Somalia and the regional administrations to support institutions and mechanisms for the promotion of human rights, in conformity with the Human Rights Road Map.

78. Mexico commended the commitment of Somalia to mainstreaming human rights as part of its peace-and State-building goals through the action plan to implement the Human Rights Road Map.

79. Montenegro enquired about actions taken to protect women and girls who were victims of sexual and psychological violence and about legal provisions prohibiting female genital mutilation.

80. Morocco commended the inclusion of human rights principles in the provisional Constitution and encouraged them to be put into practice at the end of the constitutional reform which had just begun.

81. Namibia acknowledged the efforts undertaken for legislative reforms to protect and promote human rights. It also noted the rapid economic growth between 2012 and 2014.

82. The Netherlands noted that no specific steps had been taken to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It was concerned about the use of military courts to try civilians.

83. Nicaragua noted the efforts to restructure the State and national institutions in order to strengthen the rule of law, and also the actions taken to achieve a participatory and inclusive national dialogue.

84. The Minister of Women, Human Rights and Social Development advised that the Federal Government of Somalia was preparing to sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and was in the process of consultations with all sectors of society.

85. She also stated that Somalia had established a major, milestone policy to eradicate female genital mutilation. That policy had been approved and endorsed by the Cabinet and was being implemented.

86. Moreover, the Government was discussing and preparing a standing invitation for all relevant special procedure mandate holders to visit Somalia and see at first hand the work that Somalia was undertaking to improve the human rights situation.

87. The Attorney General added that Somalia was committed to engaging in community dialogue on the use of the death penalty as way of punishing severe crimes. This community dialogue was a process that would take a long time, as the issue was highly controversial, and inherent to the religion, culture and beliefs of the Somali people. Somalia was seeking ways to ensure that this punishment was reserved only for the most heinous crimes, and even then, Somalia was looking into ways to modify rulings so that alternative punishments could be used, such as life imprisonment.

88. The Niger encouraged the implementation of the national action plan for human rights, which contained the democratic rights guaranteed by the provisional Constitution.

89. Nigeria commended Somalia on its engagement with relevant stakeholders regarding State formation, mediation and reconciliation within communities.

90. Norway noted the efforts of Somalia with respect to eradicating female genital mutilation, countering terrorism and ensuring that national security was pursued in compliance with the country's human rights obligations.

91. Oman acknowledged the priority that Somalia placed on the right to education at all levels to remedy the weaknesses in the education system.

92. Pakistan welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and appreciated the continued constructive engagement of Somalia with OHCHR.

93. The Philippines welcomed the ratification by Somalia of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and of three fundamental ILO conventions, but noted concern over reported incidents of piracy and human smuggling.

94. Portugal noted with satisfaction the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child but remained concerned about the situation of journalists and human rights defenders.

95. Qatar appreciated the efforts of Somalia at the constitutional, legislative and institutional levels to protect and promote human rights. It also commended the interest of Somalia in setting up a national human rights institution.

96. The Republic of Korea welcomed the efforts to develop the national action plan to end sexual violence in conflict, and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

97. Saudi Arabia commended the adoption of the Human Rights Road Map, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, all efforts in combating terrorism, and the approval of the national counter-terrorism bill.

98. Senegal noted the implementation of the fight against sexual violence and against the enlistment of child soldiers. It highlighted the human rights provisions included in the provisional Constitution.

99. Sierra Leone commended the adoption of the provisional Constitution, the action plan for the Human Rights Road Map, and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It encouraged Somalia to provide legal clarification on the age of the child in its national legislation.

100. Slovakia stated that the recruitment and use of children by militias should be addressed as a matter of priority. It was concerned about recent executions and invited Somalia to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

101. Slovenia noted with regret that the use of the death penalty persisted and urged Somalia to continue the constitutional review process without further delay.

102. South Africa encouraged Somalia to continue its efforts for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the right to development.

103. South Sudan appreciated the priority given by Somalia to the right to education. It called upon the international community to provide Somalia with technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of education.

104. Spain encouraged Somali institutions to overcome differences and focus in a unified fashion to work together for constitutional reform. It commended the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

105. The State of Palestine welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and encouraged Somalia to also ratify the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It acknowledged the emphasis that Somalia had put on the right to education.

106. Sweden welcomed steps taken towards improving the national framework for prevention and redress for sexual and gender-based violence. It noted a problem with the implementation of a national action plan on sexual violence in conflict.

107. Switzerland condemned the recent executions and also raised concerns about the human rights violations against internally displaced persons and human rights defenders.

108. Thailand commended the adoption of the provisional Constitution and the Human Rights Road Map and the establishment of the national human rights commission.

109. Togo welcomed the efforts of Somalia to protect human rights despite the security issues that the country faced. It urged the international community to provide further support to Somalia.

110. Turkey encouraged the achievement of Vision 2016, the finalization of the federalism process and the adoption of fundamental legislation.

111. Uganda urged Somalia to expedite the constitutional review process to strengthen institutions that play a key role in promoting and protecting human rights.

112. Ukraine welcomed the recent accession of Somalia to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

113. The United Arab Emirates emphasized the need for the international community to provide urgent assistance to Somalia in undertaking major reforms.

114. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was concerned about the human rights situation in Somalia, particularly the targeting of journalists with complete impunity.

115. The United States of America welcomed commitments to hold an electoral process in 2016 and noted that Somalis continued to suffer from conflict-related abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence.

116. Uruguay noted that the provisional Constitution provided affirmative action to promote gender equality and equity and welcomed the National Gender Policy.

117. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the Human Rights Road Map 2013, its action plan, and the high priority attached to the right to education.

118. Yemen stated that, despite the difficulties caused by the war and conflict, Somalia had been able to combat trafficking and terrorism and protect the rights of women.

119. Afghanistan welcomed the adoption of the Human Rights Road Map and its action plan, which were aimed at respecting, promoting and fulfilling the human and democratic rights of Somali citizens.

120. Algeria commended the provisional Constitution, which enshrined human rights principles and efforts to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, particularly those of women and children.

121. Angola encouraged the revising of the Constitution to be an inclusive process in the context of the national dialogue to establish strong and democratic institutions to harmonize sectorial laws with international standards.

122. Argentina expressed concern about the human rights situation in Somalia because of attacks by armed groups, as reflected in Human Rights Council resolution 30/20. It recognized the huge efforts made by Somalia for the rights of internally displaced persons and refugees.

123. Armenia noted the challenges faced in the promotion of the rights of the child, including the right to education, as well as in the promotion of the right to health, which included limited access to health-care services and the need to renew the infrastructure.

124. Australia welcomed steps to introduce institutions supporting fundamental rights, including the national human rights institution, but was concerned about the recruitment of child soldiers.

125. Austria was concerned at restrictions on press freedom and violence against women, including female genital mutilation. It noted that the implementation of an action plan to address sexual violence was slow.

126. Azerbaijan noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and three ILO conventions. It also welcomed cooperation with the special procedures.

127. Bahrain commended the implementation of the recommendations from the first cycle, including those from Bahrain. It also appreciated Somalia's dealings with internally displaced persons and their return.

128. Bangladesh welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It highlighted the need of Somalia to continue to receive due attention and assistance from the international community in its efforts to ensure basic human rights for its citizens.

129. Belgium noted the draft legislation banning female genital mutilation. It raised concerns at the lack of protection for internally displaced persons and at the intimidation, attacks and murders reportedly carried out on journalists.

130. Botswana noted the 2012 provisional Constitution and the adoption of many laws. It also noted several challenges that Somalia had been facing in implementing its policies and strengthening institutions.

131. Burundi noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and encouraged Somalia to continue its efforts to counter terrorism.

132. The Minister of Women, Human Rights and Social Development thanked delegations for their engagement and interest in the human rights situation in Somalia. Somalia had many challenges and needed the support of its international partners in order to ensure that it could implement major objectives as specified in the Human Rights Road Map.

133. Somalia had achieved a lot and had a long way to go. Somalia was simultaneously rebuilding an entire State, fighting crippling terrorism and working hard to promote and protect human rights. On top of all this, 2016 was promising to be a historic year, as Somalia prepared for the election of the second post-transition Parliament and President.

134. The Minister assured the Working Group that Somalia would take all recommendations into consideration and deliberate on them. Somalia was more than willing to take action to realize human rights, but lacked capacity. She urged all those advising Somalia on this issue to work with Somalia and to assist its Government to implement its human rights programmes.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

135. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Somalia and enjoy the support of Somalia:**

135.1 **Sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Austria) (Italy) (Slovakia) (Spain) (Turkey);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

135.2 **Accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Costa Rica)/Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Guatemala) (Malaysia) (Montenegro) (Portugal) (Sierra Leone) (Sweden);**

135.3 **Consider acceding to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Egypt)/Consider ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Indonesia);**

135.4 **Step up its efforts towards ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Philippines);**

135.5 **Accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and actively fight against violence against women (France);**

135.6 **Fast-track the process to sign and ratify international treaties related to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Uganda);**

135.7 **Fast-track the process to sign and ratify international treaties related to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights among others (Uganda);**

135.8 **Consider ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Namibia);**

135.9 **Ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and enact and enforce laws and regulations that prohibit all forms of violence against women (Sweden);**

135.10 **Deposit ratification instruments of the Kampala Convention on the Protection and Assistance of IDPs with the African Union and initiate a profiling exercise of the IDPs in Mogadishu to assess protection needs and define "durable solutions" (Germany);**

135.11 **Continue to strengthen its legislative framework to promote and protect human rights (Congo);**

135.12 **Enact legislation on human rights, including Citizenship Act, Persons with Disabilities Act, and the National Human Rights Commission Act (Egypt);**

135.13 **Work on enacting important and relevant human rights laws, particularly, Disability Act, National Commission for Human Rights Act, and Sexual Offences Act (Iraq);**

135.14 **Continue efforts to ensure respect and protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of the entire population, especially of vulnerable groups, and to ensure compliance with international humanitarian law (Argentina);**

135.15 **Strengthen the dialogue with the African Union and the United Nations with a view to adopting strategies for the protection of human rights (Costa Rica);**

135.16 **Establish a national human rights institution (Morocco);**

135.17 **Continue efforts to strengthen human rights institutions, including the judiciary and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights in order to ensure effective protection and promotion of human rights (Botswana);**

135.18 **Implement the Action Plan of the National Human Rights Roadmap (Cuba);**

135.19 Continue to implement National Human Rights Road Framework (Pakistan);

135.20 Continue its efforts to speed up the implementation of the National Human Rights Roadmap and the related Action Plan (Qatar);

135.21 Take concrete measures to ensure the implementation of the action plan for the human rights roadmap and to ensure all its citizens have access to an independent and competent legal aid system (Afghanistan);

135.22 Step up efforts to implement the Action Plan for the Human Rights Roadmap for Somalia, as well as to reduce and prevent violence against women (Brazil);

135.23 Mobilize national and international stakeholders for the continued implementation of its National Human Rights Roadmap (Ethiopia);

135.24 Take necessary steps to implement the National Human Rights Roadmap and its Action Plan and call on the international partners to support Somalia in their implementation (Azerbaijan);

135.25 Intensify coordination efforts with various United Nations bodies and mechanisms for the further implementation of the national road map for human rights set out in paragraphs 48 and 49 of the report (United Arab Emirates);

135.26 Enhance its work on human rights education and training to its people (Philippines);

135.27 Continue with awareness-raising and trainings for workers in the legal sector and those working in the area of human rights (Egypt);

135.28 Continue to protect the rights of workers and women, emphasize justice for minorities, and strengthen public health (Iraq);

135.29 Develop a birth registration system (Turkey);

135.30 Submit overdue reports to the relevant UN treaty bodies (Sierra Leone);

135.31 Utilize international financial and technical assistance to discharge its human rights reporting obligations (Ethiopia);

135.32 Extend a standing invitation to special procedures (Turkey);

135.33 Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);

135.34 Extend a standing invitation to all mandate holders of Special Procedures (Madagascar);

135.35 Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders (Lithuania);

135.36 Consider the issuance of a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders (Azerbaijan);

135.37 Consider extending an invitation on the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders (Portugal);

135.38 Take all appropriate action in order to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls (Cyprus);

135.39 **Adopt necessary measures to prevent violations of human rights and international humanitarian law within the framework of military operations (Costa Rica);**

135.40 **Issue clear public orders to the Somali National Forces not to commit unlawful attacks against civilians (Denmark);**

135.41 **Adopt clear measures to ensure that humanitarian aid is not disrupted in a systematic way (Bahrain);**

135.42 **Implement a zero-tolerance policy on gender-based violence (Turkey);**

135.43 **Intensify the implementation of the action plan addressing the alarming levels of sexual violence against women (Greece);**

135.44 **Ensure effective implementation of the National Action Plan to End Sexual Violence in Conflict, including through frequent meetings of the Steering Committee (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

135.45 **Take concrete measures to end violence against women by implementing the National Action Plan to end sexual violence and by investigating and prosecuting alleged violations, including when perpetrated by military and security personnel, in accordance with international law (Finland);**

135.46 **Strengthen the dialogue with AMISOM with a view to adopting special measures to protect Somali women and girls against sexual exploitation and abuse (Mexico);**

135.47 **Continue its efforts in the provision of social care for children at risk and poor families (Yemen);**

135.48 **Consider taking targeted measures to combat violence against children; to conduct awareness campaigns on children's right to freedom from violence and to offer protection to children who are victims of violence (Namibia);**

135.49 **Double the efforts to protect children from being victimized by forced and unlawful employment, recruitment of child soldiers by militant groups, trafficking, or sexual exploitation (Malaysia);**

135.50 **Take measures to put an end to the presence of child soldiers within the armed forces and armed groups (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

135.51 **Establish effective vetting procedures to ensure that the Somali national armed forces and police do not include persons under the age of 18 (Belgium);**

135.52 **Implement the national action plan against the recruitment of children into armed forces (Australia);**

135.53 **Ensure that the Action Plan on ending the recruitment and use of children signed in 2012 is fully implemented (Slovakia);**

135.54 **Implement fully the 2012 Action Plans to eradicate the recruitment and use of child soldiers and achieve the goal of "Children Not Soldiers" in this year (Uruguay);**

135.55 **Prevent and thoroughly halt the use and recruitment of child soldiers and ensure reintegration and access to education for former child soldiers (Japan);**

135.56 **Step up its efforts to strengthen the mechanisms to demobilize child soldiers and ensure their social reintegration, notably through family reunification and vocational training (Angola);**

135.57 **Strengthen efforts at maintaining an efficient, impartial and independent judiciary as a critical pillar in the administration of justice (South Africa);**

135.58 **Continue to take actions to improve the capacity of the judiciary, including by sensitizing officials working in the judicial branch on issues concerning vulnerable groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities (Malaysia);**

135.59 **Improve access to justice for victims of sexual violence, particularly in rural areas (Luxembourg);**

135.60 **Investigate thoroughly and prosecute all reported cases of sexual violence, and ensure that support and compensation is provided to the victims (Sierra Leone);**

135.61 **Adopt measures to eliminate all forms of violence against women including by ensuring that the perpetrators are prosecuted and punished and that the required protection and assistance is provided for the victims (Slovenia);**

135.62 **Prohibit all forms of violence against women by passing and enforcing legislation providing for prevention, the adequate punishment of perpetrators, protection and support for victims, including legal remedies and paying special attention to the protection of minority women (Austria);**

135.63 **Strengthen accountability mechanisms for security forces, including by ensuring these mechanisms protect the rights of victims (United States of America);**

135.64 **Ensure that the perpetrators of all terrorist attacks are brought to justice (Cyprus);**

135.65 **Strengthen efforts towards the protection of women and children's rights, and ensure thorough investigations of alleged violence against women, including sexual violence (Botswana);**

135.66 **Adopt measures, including appropriate legislation, to prevent, penalize and eliminate all forms of violence against women, end impunity for sexual violence and ensure access to justice (Lithuania);**

135.67 **Carry out judicial investigations into the crimes against journalists (Belgium);**

135.68 **Take measures to ensure that journalists exercise their profession freely and fight against impunity of the perpetrators of violence against them (France);**

135.69 **Address effectively the issue of murders and harassment of journalists, media workers and professionals, by eliminating the prevalence of impunity and establishing effective prosecution acts (Greece);**

135.70 **Ensure that security forces do not arbitrarily harass and arrest journalists or otherwise prevent the exercise of freedom of expression (United States of America);**

135.71 **Promote equal participation of all citizens in political and public affairs and adopt legislation regulating the establishment and functioning of political parties (Czech Republic);**

135.72 **Promote the participation of women in public affairs, including raising the rate of their representation in elected councils (Algeria);**

135.73 **Strengthen its efforts to increase women's participation in elected and appointed bodies at all levels of government (Norway);**

135.74 **Further promote the country's economic recovery, through reducing poverty and considerably improving infrastructure in service delivery (Greece);**

135.75 **Step up collaboration with regional and international actors to improve food security by working towards achieving sustainable production and distribution of food (Malaysia);**

135.76 **Continue and strengthen measures to fight against malnutrition, both chronic and acute (Cuba);**

135.77 **Take immediate measures to ensure under-nourished children are provided with nutrition supplements and access to clean water (Maldives);**

135.78 **Establish and continue to improve the healthcare system to protect people's right to health (China);**

135.79 **Find the necessary means to improve the health sector, providing access to all citizens (Djibouti);**

135.80 **Take measures to promote and protect the right to health, including through ensuring access to health care services (Armenia);**

135.81 **Take concrete measures to reduce child and maternal mortality rates (Maldives);**

135.82 **Intensify its efforts in addressing the issues of education, poverty and health (Nigeria);**

135.83 **Provide necessary resources for promotion of human rights, especially for the right to education and the right to health (Algeria);**

135.84 **Continue to promote access to education (Pakistan);**

135.85 **Enhance its efforts to encourage people to enrol their children in schools as well as to improve access to education (Indonesia);**

135.86 **Continue to strengthen educational policies in order to ensure the necessary conditions for full access to education (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

135.87 **Continue to prioritize the realization of right to education as a key national policy to increase child enrolment rate and improve the quality of education (China);**

135.88 **Make the education of children a State priority and provide all children with the educational opportunities to rebuild schools and protect them (Lithuania);**

135.89 Continue enhancing the right to education and provide training services and professional development to the teachers (South Sudan);

135.90 Develop measures to promote education for all, particularly for vulnerable groups, including women, children and persons with disabilities (Republic of Korea);

135.91 Increase its efforts to provide education for all, particularly for women and children, and address inequality in education (State of Palestine);

135.92 Support all stakeholders, including Community Education Committees, religious groups, NGOs in their effort to provide education services to all, with a particular emphasis on access of girls to basic education (Thailand);

135.93 Continue to promote efforts aimed at developing methodological and innovative approaches balancing the short-term needs and the long-term vision in order to establish a sustainable education system (Oman);

135.94 Invest in the education sector, particularly in rural areas (Djibouti);

135.95 Take measures to ensure equal access to education, especially for those living in rural areas (Maldives);

135.96 Adopt a national policy to end discrimination against persons with disabilities and support their social integration, including of persons with mental health problems (Italy);

135.97 Adopt measures aimed at protecting persons belonging to minority groups, including internally displaced persons belonging to minorities (Portugal);

135.98 Do its best in addressing the issue of internally displaced persons (Nigeria);

135.99 Expedite the finalization of the policy addressing the situation of refugees and IDPs (Bahrain);

135.100 Respect and protect the human rights of internally displaced persons (Switzerland);

135.101 Protect the rights of internally displaced persons and fight discrimination against them (France);

135.102 Intensify efforts aimed at creating relocation sites and providing basic protection to internally displaced persons (Ukraine);

135.103 Take measures to ensure access to basic services by internally displaced persons and refugees (Argentina);

135.104 Call on the international community to assist its economy and provide support to it (Kuwait);

135.105 Fight against terrorism with all possible means (Kuwait);

135.106 Continue its efforts to adopt the national law to combat terrorism (Libya);

135.107 Speed up the adoption of the national anti-terrorism law and start implementation in order to prevent harmful effects on the system of human rights in Somalia (United Arab Emirates).

136. The following recommendations will be examined by Somalia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council, in June 2016:

136.1 Sign, accede to and/or ratify the main international instruments already agreed in the previous cycle of the universal periodic review (Uruguay);

136.2 Continue its accession to the core international human rights instruments (Azerbaijan);

136.3 Ratify and implement the core human rights instruments, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and abolish the death penalty, as previously recommended (Slovenia);

136.4 Sign and ratify the international conventions and covenants in the field of human rights and allow women to contribute to the labour market, education, and political participation (Iraq);

136.5 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);

136.6 Consider ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with the view to abolish the death penalty and to introduce a moratorium on executions, as undertaken during the previous review (Namibia);

136.7 Carry out the necessary step for the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other human rights treaties (Japan);

136.8 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its three Optional Protocols (Madagascar);

136.9 Consider acceding to the Convention against Torture (Egypt);

136.10 Step up its efforts towards ratifying the Convention against Torture (Philippines);

136.11 Fast-track the process to sign and ratify international treaties related to the Convention against Torture (Uganda);

136.12 Sign and ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Italy);

136.13 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Guatemala) (Malaysia) (Niger) (Portugal);

136.14 Consider acceding to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Egypt);

136.15 Step up its efforts towards ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Philippines);

136.16 Fast-track the process to sign and ratify international treaties related to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Uganda);

136.17 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Portugal);**

136.18 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana) (Niger) (Sierra Leone);**

136.19 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);**

136.20 **Step up its efforts towards ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines);**

136.21 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Ghana) (Sierra Leone);**

136.22 **Sign the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ukraine);**

136.23 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Spain);**

136.24 **Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (France)/Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Japan) (Spain);**

136.25 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and prohibit explicitly corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home (Estonia);**

136.26 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, signed in 2005, without reservation, and incorporate it into domestic law (Luxembourg);**

136.27 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and strengthen the legal framework in line with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Strengthen efforts to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children (Italy);**

136.28 **Lift reservations to the articles 14, 20 and 21 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as these are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention (Germany);**

136.29 **Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia) (Estonia) (Ghana);**

136.30 **Sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Lithuania);**

136.31 **Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC (Costa Rica) (France) (Luxembourg)/Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Estonia) (Ghana) (Slovakia) (Slovenia) (Switzerland);**

136.32 **Consider acceding to the Rome Statute of ICC (Portugal);**

136.33 **Take all necessary measures towards acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Cyprus);**

136.34 **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and ensure its incorporation into domestic law, as accepted in the previous universal periodic review (Uruguay);**

136.35 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC to ensure accountability for, prevention of and justice for the victims of human rights violations (Latvia);**

136.36 **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to complement national mechanisms and ensure accountability for gross human rights and international humanitarian law violations (Guatemala);**

136.37 **Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (Ghana);**

136.38 **Ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Additional Protocols (Portugal);**

136.39 **Ensure a successful completion and adoption of a Federal Constitution in line with the Federal Government's agenda and Vision 2016 (Nigeria);**

136.40 **Adopt early the Constitution and the draft laws in the process of enactment, in line with "Vision 2016" programme proposed by the Government (Nicaragua);**

136.41 **Finalize the new draft Constitution by continuing to adopt an inclusive approach (Senegal);**

136.42 **Finalize and adopt the Federal Constitution, without delay, in coordination with the Federal Government, regional administrations, civil society and the Somali public (Lithuania);**

136.43 **Include women, minorities and persons with disabilities in participation in the constitutional referendum, and elections (Lithuania);**

136.44 **Ensure the right to freedom of expression in the soon to be reviewed provisional constitution and in its federal and regional media legislation (Finland);**

136.45 **Give high priority to the drafting and implementation of a new Penal Code and a new Penal Procedural Code which would include provisions to prohibit discrimination against women, minorities and displaced persons in all its forms; provisions to facilitate access to justice for all citizens; and which excludes the death penalty (Netherlands);**

136.46 **Combat piracy by enacting a legislation prohibiting ransoms to pirates for releasing hostages (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

136.47 **Continue efforts to consolidate the national framework for protection of human rights (Morocco);**

136.48 **Continue to strengthen the national dialogue through an inclusive and collaborative process (Nicaragua);**

136.49 **Work towards strengthening the national reconciliation in order to bring the country out of the cycle of violence (Senegal);**

136.50 **Strengthen its cooperation with the international community and accelerate the establishment of democracy and the rule of law (Japan);**

136.51 **Establish a national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Malaysia);**

136.52 **Establish a National Human Rights Institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles as a matter of priority (Australia);**

136.53 **Step up the process of establishing a national human rights commission in line with the Paris Principles (Burundi);**

136.54 **Expedite its efforts to establish the National Human Rights Institution, in line with the Paris Principles and with full participation of the civil society (Indonesia);**

136.55 **Ensure that the establishment of the Independent Human Rights Commission Bill is Paris Principle compliant and that the establishment is in line with a transparent and inclusive nomination and appointment process (Sweden);**

136.56 **Take full and effective advantage of technical assistance provided by the international community in the field of training and capacity building of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Qatar);**

136.57 **Reinforce government control over the activities and personnel of private military and/or security companies, in order to strengthen the rule of law and respect for human rights by all relevant actors (Brazil);**

136.58 **Undertake specific legal reforms for the promotion of non-discrimination and gender equality (Greece);**

136.59 **Intensify efforts in enacting and strengthening appropriate legal framework, which will address gender inequalities, sexual violence and protection of women's rights (Nigeria);**

136.60 **Intensify its effort in the promotion and protection of the rights of women by, inter alia, ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, revising discriminatory legal provisions and effectively enforcing its law to fight against gender-based violence (Thailand);**

136.61 **Reform its legislation in view of promoting non-discrimination and equality between men and women within marriage and for rights of women in case of dissolution of marriage (Madagascar);**

136.62 **Take clear steps to ensure that Somali security forces (and militias under its purview) comply with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including by integrating human rights training into security sector reform programmes (Canada);**

136.63 **Consider placing a moratorium on the death penalty (South Africa);**

136.64 **Declare a moratorium on the death penalty (Costa Rica);**

136.65 **Establish a moratorium in view of abolishing the death penalty (Greece);**

136.66 **Introduce a moratorium on capital executions, with a view to abolish the death penalty (Italy);**

136.67 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, in view of its definitive abolition (France);**

136.68 **Establish immediately an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Austria);**

136.69 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolishing in the shortest delay (Lithuania);**

136.70 **Adopt a moratorium on the death penalty and commute capital punishment to alternative penalties (Switzerland);**

136.71 **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);**

136.72 **Establish and respect a moratorium on the application of the death penalty in Somalia, in accordance with its 2011 universal periodic review commitment (Canada);**

136.73 **Prohibit the application of the death penalty, life imprisonment and corporal punishment on offences committed by minors (Mexico);**

136.74 **Take measures to counteract serious violations and abuse of the human rights of women and girls, including early forced marriage and FGM (Japan);**

136.75 **Implement the action plan against sexual violence against women and adopt measures to further criminalize female genital mutilation (Spain);**

136.76 **Step up efforts to prevent all forms of violence against women, including sexual abuse and domestic violence by finally adopting a comprehensive National Action Plan to punish perpetrators and provide assistance and recovery for victims as well as eradicate harmful traditions such as FGM (Republic of Korea);**

136.77 **Enhance efforts to ensure effective implementation of international commitments and existing legislation to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual abuse and child early and forced marriage. Adopt measures to support victims of sexual abuse and bring perpetrators to justice (Italy);**

136.78 **Enact laws to implement the constitutional prohibition on FGM (Philippines);**

136.79 **Speed up and finalize the process of criminalizing the practice of FGM and take practical steps to eradicate it (Norway);**

136.80 **Abolish in law and practice female genital mutilation, including through the ratification and implementation of the Maputo Protocol (Australia);**

136.81 **Adopt and enact the legislation banning female genital mutilation at the earliest possible stage (Belgium);**

136.82 **Make all necessary efforts to pass legislation prohibiting female genital mutilation within the current year (Uruguay);**

136.83 **Modify the penal code to legally prohibit all forms of FGM. Complement punitive measures with awareness-raising and educational activities. Consider developing an action plan to intensify efforts for the eradication of FGM (Italy);**

136.84 **Prohibit the widespread practice of female genital mutilation/cutting in Somalia, including by amending the penal code to ban the practice and bringing legislation into conformity with Article 15 (4) of the Provisional Constitution (Canada);**

136.85 **Adopt comprehensive policies abolishing child, early and forced marriage (Sierra Leone);**

136.86 **Take necessary measures to reduce child marriage, particularly the prohibition of forced marriage of girls (Mexico);**

136.87 **Implement the legislation to prevent and repress marriages between minors by fixing the legal age for marriage at 18 for men and women (Madagascar);**

136.88 **Adopt concrete measures to end, as a matter of priority, the enrolment of children in armed forces, including ratifying and implementing the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Czech Republic);**

136.89 **Take further steps to protect children, including by implementing the 2014 Child Protection Act and finalizing the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, taking steps to ratify its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and by implementing the 2012 action plans to prevent the recruitment and use of child soldiers by the Somali National Army and allied militias (Canada);**

136.90 **Make further efforts to strengthen the legal framework in the areas of security and law enforcement as well as ensure that the judiciary is guided by international human rights law with a particular focus on the importance of an impartial and independent judicial system (Republic of Korea);**

136.91 **Continue strengthening the legal framework and building institutions in the area of security, law enforcement, and judiciary, in accordance with the rights-based approach and not bringing civilians before military courts (State of Palestine);**

136.92 **Put an end to the trials of civilians by military tribunals (France);**

136.93 **Ensure the prompt, impartial and effective investigation of all attacks and violence against journalists to bring the perpetrators to justice and provide remedies for the victims and their families and, to reform the Penal Code to bring it in line with international standards on freedom of expression (Latvia);**

136.94 **Deepen measures to ensure the fight against impunity for perpetrators of acts of violence and of all human rights violations (Argentina);**

136.95 **Address widespread impunity — including for attacks against journalists, civil society and human rights defenders, women and LGBTI persons — by conducting timely and impartial investigations, investigating threats of violence, and prosecuting perpetrators (Canada);**

136.96 **Ensure the protection of the human rights of journalists and human rights defenders and guarantee that perpetrators of violations against human rights defenders be brought to justice (Switzerland);**

136.97 **Establish clear vetting procedures to identify and prosecute individuals responsible for serious abuses of human rights such as torture, extrajudicial killings, recruitment of children and sexual violence – including during recruitment and integration of new forces into the SNAF (Germany);**

136.98 **Prioritize the investigation and prosecution of senior political and military leaders with command responsibility for violations of international human rights law and ensure civilian oversight of the Federal Government of Somalia security forces (Sweden);**

136.99 **Investigate in a prompt, transparent and impartial manner allegations of violations of international law and human rights by armed and**

security forces and establish procedures for verification and oversight to ensure that perpetrators of grave violations are removed from these forces (France);

136.100 **Ensure that war crimes and crimes against humanity are punished by acceding to the Rome Statute establishing the ICC (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

136.101 **Step up efforts to ensure accountability and fight impunity and, among other steps in this regard, ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC and the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the ICC (Czech Republic);**

136.102 **Ensure that national security shall be pursued in full compliance with international human rights obligations, including the right to a fair trial, the rights to information, freedom of assembly and association and freedom of expression (Norway);**

136.103 **Provide greater freedom to journalism (Iraq);**

136.104 **Put an end to the restrictions on freedom of expression, including arrest of journalists and human rights activists (Portugal);**

136.105 **Release all media workers and human rights defenders arrested and detained for their human rights activities and allow the reopening of closed media outlets (Austria);**

136.106 **Take concrete measures ensuring the freedom of expression, independence of the media, protection of journalists, and adopt legislative and other measures to prevent censorship (Czech Republic);**

136.107 **Fully guarantee freedom of expression and the press, in particular by conducting credible and effective investigations into allegations of detentions, harassment and abuses against journalists in Somalia (Spain);**

136.108 **Secure the defence of journalists, media personnel and media company owners against attacks and prosecute those responsible for such attempts, and adopt an information law (Estonia);**

136.109 **Ensure that the new Media Law is in line with international standards (Luxembourg);**

136.110 **Review the media law of 28 December 2015 to ensure compliance with international standards on freedom of expression (Denmark);**

136.111 **Adopt clear by-laws and regulations to the new Media Law clarifying the general clauses for the benefit of the journalists instead of further reducing the space of free media (Germany);**

136.112 **Implement legislative instruments in a manner that ensures full freedom of expression, leading to active and genuine civil society participation in the electoral and state-building processes (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

136.113 **That the Federal Government at the highest level ensure strong public statements recognizing the legitimate and important role of journalists and human rights defenders in advancing human rights and inclusive politics (Norway);**

136.114 **Ensure that the National Intelligence and Security Agency refrains from detaining journalists, closing media outlets, confiscating media equipment and other law enforcement activities which are beyond its mandate (Netherlands);**

136.115 Hold an on-time electoral process in 2016 that is fair, transparent, and inclusive (United States of America);

136.116 Develop and approve the legal framework allowing to meet the minimum quota for women to sit in the Federal Parliament (Mexico);

136.117 Take all necessary steps to halt all forced evictions in all locations under its control and particularly in Mogadishu (Belgium);

136.118 Allocate adequate resources for ensuring access to safe drinking water and sanitation, to proper health care services for women and children, as well as to affordable and satisfactory education (Ukraine);

136.119 Ensure equal access to education for girls and children living in the rural areas, including by adopting concrete measures to eliminate early marriages, FGM and other gender discriminative practices which hinder the education of girls (Slovenia);

136.120 Adopt an anti-terrorism law compliant with international standards (Ukraine);

136.121 Accelerate the adoption of the pending bills, particularly those related to fight against the phenomenon of money laundering and terrorism in order to establish an appropriate legal framework for combating terrorism (Mauritania).

137. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Somalia was headed by H.E. Mme Zahra Ali Samantar, Minister of Women, Human Rights and Social Development, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Ahmed Ali Dahir, Attorney General
- H.E. Mme Faduma Abdullahi Mohamud, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Geneva
- Mr. Mohamed Omar Nur, Director General, Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development
- Mr. Mohamed Elmi, Human Rights Adviser, Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development
- Mr. Mohamed Shire, Strategic Policy Adviser, Ministry of Women, Human Rights and Social Development
- Ms. Farhia Mumin, Technical Adviser, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
- Mr. Mohamed Ali Jama, Director General, Ministry of Internal Security